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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 040894-7178

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Masato ITO, et al.)	
)	
Application No.: Unassigned)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
U.S. Filing Date: February 7, 2005)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
National Stage of PCT/JP02/08075)	
)	
PCT Filing Date: August 7, 2002)	

For: **METHOD OF DETECTING PROTRUDENT ADHERED MATTERS AND METHOD OF MAKING SPARK PLUG USING THE SAME**

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22314

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of each listed document is attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form. As for any documents listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 that are in a language other than English, relevance can be understood from an enclosed English abstract or at least partial translation or from mention in the specification or search report for a corresponding application.

10/523613
DT Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 FEB 2005

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art."

If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 7, 2005

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DT12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 FEB 2005

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	Applicants Masato ITO, et al.		
	Filing Date February 7, 2005		Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	2002/0043099	Apr. 18, 2002	Maruoka et al			
	6,672,141	Jan 6, 2004	Maruoka et al			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES	NO
	JP 01-273188 A	Nov. 1, 1989	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 08-152309	June 11, 1996	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 10-208044	Aug. 7, 1998	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 2001-074414	Mar. 23, 2001	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 2002-90275 A	Mar. 27, 2002	Japan			Abstract	Filing DXte
	JP 2002-298123	Oct. 11, 2002	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 2002-207011	Jul. 26, 2002	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 10-89923	Apr. 10, 1998	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 11-121143	Apr. 30, 1999	Japan			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner /Thomas Redding/	Date Considered 02/29/2008
Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	